a Haat at the State capital. These funds are shared between Centre and the States in the ratio of 75:25 while in case of Centre and North Eastern States, the funds are shared in the ratio of 90:10.

(b) During the financial year 2008-09, Ministry of Rural Development released funds amounting to Rs. 371.25 lakhs to all 22 DRDAs of Andhra Pradesh for creation of 66 village haats (3 village haats per DRDA) on pilot basis. These village Haats are yet to be set up which are expected to promote marketing of products at village level and will benefit the rural artisans.

(c) No proposal for creation of new Haats has been received from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh this year.

Road connectivity under Bharat Nirman Yojana

3496. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the Bharat Nirman Yojana for 2005-2009, the target set for providing road connectivity to 66,900 eligible habitations was later downsized to 59,216 habitations;

(b) whether even this downsized target was not achieved with only 35 per cent of the habitations given road connectivity;

(c) whether due to funds scarcity, Government proposes to adopt private-public partnership for building rural roads;

(d) whether many sugar mills have come up with offers of upgrading rural roads; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) As per data provided by the State Governments, initially 66,802 habitations were identified for providing all weather road connectivity under the rural roads component of Bharat Nirman during 2005-2009. After the initial targets of 66,802 habitations were intimated to the States, ground verification was carried out by the State Governments in order to assess the actual number of habitations eligible for coverage under Bharat Nirman. Based on the ground verification by the State Governments, 54,648 habitations have been identified for provision of road connectivity under Bharat Nirman.

(b) Upto March, 2009, 31924 habitations have been provided road connectivity under Bharat Nirman. As such, 58 percent of eligible habitations have been given road connectivity under Bharat Nirman by March, 2009.

(c) At present, there is no proposal in the Ministry to adopt private-public partnership for building rural roads under Bharat Nirman.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Not applicable in view of the reply given to (d) above.